

Alberta Provincial Electoral Divisions

Technical Notes and
Definitions

Alberta

Technical Notes

Confidentiality and Random Rounding

To ensure that the statistics presented do not reveal any sensitive information, Statistics Canada uses dissemination rules for census data, so the results may be less precise due to random rounding or data suppression.

Census data tables are subjected to a confidentiality technique known as "random rounding" which provides strong protection against direct, residual or negative disclosure, without adding significant error. This method, based on established probabilities, involves rounding every figure on a table (including totals) randomly up or down to the nearest multiple of 5, or in some cases, 10. Since totals are rounded independently, differences between these and the sum of rounded cell data may exist. Similarly, minor differences can be expected in corresponding totals and cell values among various census tabulations. In addition, small cell counts may suffer a loss of precision as a result of random rounding.

A data table is always associated with a geographic area, viewed from the standpoint of the "place of residence", "place of work", or a combination of both. Area suppression is used to remove all characteristic data for geographic areas with populations below specified threshold levels.

Sampling and Weighting

In 2011, data in Canada was collected either from 100% of the households census data or as a sample survey, National Household Survey (NHS) (i.e. from a random sample of one in five households) with the data weighted up to provide estimates for the entire population. For some of the Indian reserves and individuals residing in remote areas, data was collected on a 100% basis. For the first time, the questions normally asked on the census long form were asked in the NHS. This voluntary, self-administered survey was conducted between May and August 2011. A random sample of 4.5 million dwellings/private households was selected for the NHS. This is slightly less than one-third (30%) of all private dwellings in Canada in 2011. Since the NHS is a voluntary survey, a non-response bias exists. The response rate of 68.6% of the number of questionnaires completed as compared to the total number of occupied private dwellings in the sample. Since the NHS sampling design includes a subsample for non-response follow-up, a weighted response rate that takes this subsample into account is needed to get a better idea of the quality of the NHS data. To calculate the weighted response rate, the households in the sample that responded to the NHS represent individuals who responded to the survey and those not in it. For Alberta, the unweighted response rate is 67.3% and the weighted response rate is 75.4%.

Population Universe

The Census enumerates the entire Canadian population, which consists of:

- Canadian citizens (by birth and naturalization) and landed immigrants who have a usual place of residence in Canada, are abroad (either on a military base or attached to a diplomatic mission), or are at sea or in port abroad merchant vessels under Canadian registry; and
- non-permanent residents (persons from another country living in Canada who have a Minister's permit, a student or employment authorization, or are claiming refugee status), together with family members who live with them.

The population universe does not include foreign residents:

- persons who are government representatives or members of Armed Forces of another country (and members of their families living with them); or
- residents of another country visiting Canada temporarily (e.g. a foreign visitor here on vacation or business, with or without a visitor's permit).

The population universe (the target population) of the 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) is the population residing in private households. It excludes persons whose usual place of residence is a collective dwelling, for example, a hospital, a hotel, or a seniors' residence. The NHS covers all persons who usually live in Canada, in the provinces and the territories. It includes persons who live on Indian reserves and in other Indian settlements, permanent residents, non-permanent residents such as refugee claimants, holders of work or study permits, and members of their families living with them.

Foreign residents such as representatives of a foreign government assigned to an embassy, high commission or other diplomatic mission in Canada, members of the armed forces of another country stationed in Canada, and residents of another country who are visiting Canada temporarily are not covered by the NHS.

Population Counts Based on Usual Residence

In most cases, enumerating Canada's population at their usual place of residence (regardless of where they happened to be on Census day) is straightforward and, in most areas, there is little difference between the number of usual residents and the number of people staying in the area on Census Day. Problems can arise, however, when a person cannot be associated with a dwelling that fits the concept of usual place of residence or when a person is associated with more than one dwelling in Canada. For certain places such as tourist or vacation areas, or those containing large work camps or populations of post-secondary students, the number of people staying in the area at any particular time could significantly exceed the number of usual residents.

Incompletely Enumerated Indian Reserves and Settlements

In the 2011 Census, some Indian reserves and Indian Settlements were incompletely enumerated. Data are therefore not available for the incompletely enumerated reserves and settlements and are not included in tabulations. While for higher-level geographic areas (Canada, provinces, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations) the impact of the missing data is very small, it can be significant for smaller areas containing a larger proportion of the affected reserves and settlements. For Alberta, only Saddle Lake 125, which falls in PED 65- Lac La Biche-St. Paul-Two Hills, was incompletely enumerated for the 2011 Census.

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Definitions

Population

Institutional Resident

Person who lives in an institutional collective dwelling, such as a hospital, a nursing home or a jail. This includes residents under care or custody and employee residents and family members living with them, if any.

Institutional collective dwellings are general and specialty hospitals, chronic care and long-term care hospitals, nursing homes, group homes or institutions for the physically handicapped and treatment centres, group homes for children and youth, group homes or institutions for people with psychiatric disorders or developmental disabilities, federal correctional institutions, provincial and territorial custodial facilities, young offenders' facilities, jails and police lock-up facilities, shelters for persons lacking a fixed address, shelters for abused women and their children and other shelters and lodgings with assistance services.

In 2011 and 2006, institutional residents exclude people living in seniors' residences.

Sex

Refers to the gender of the respondent.

Age

Refers to the age at last birthday (as of the census reference date, May 10, 2011).

Legal Marital Status

Refers to the marital status of the person under the law, taking into account his/her common-law status.

Single (never legally married)

A person who has never married or a person whose marriage has been annulled and who has not remarried. Persons living common law are not included in this category.

Legally married (and not separated)

A person who is married and has not separated or obtained a divorce, and whose spouse is living.

Separated

A person who is married but who no longer lives with his/her spouse (for any reason other than illness, work or school) and who has not obtained a divorce. Persons living common law are not included in this category.

Divorced

A person who has obtained a legal divorce and who has not remarried. Persons living common law are not included in this category.

Widowed

A person who has lost his/her spouse through death and who has not remarried. Persons living common law are not included in this category.

Common-law Status

A person who is living with another person as a couple but who is not legally married to that person.

Family Structure

Census Families

Refers to a married couple (with or without children), a common-law couple (with or without children) or a lone parent family.

Non-Family Persons

Refers to household members who do not belong to a census family.

Home Language

Refers to the language spoken most often or on a regular basis at home by the individual on May 10, 2011.

Knowledge of Official Languages

Refers to the ability to conduct a conversation in English only, in French only, in both English and French, or in neither English nor French.

Aboriginal Identity

Refers to whether the person reported being an Aboriginal person, that is, First Nations (North American Indian), Métis or Inuk (Inuit) and/or being a Registered or Treaty Indian (that is, registered under the Indian Act of Canada) and/or being a member of a First Nation or Indian band. Aboriginal peoples of Canada are defined in the Constitution Act, 1982, section 35 (2) as including the Indian, Inuit and Métis peoples of Canada.

Citizenship

Citizenship refers to the legal citizenship status of a person. Citizenship can be by birth or naturalization. A person may have more than one citizenship. A person may be stateless, that is, they may have no citizenship.

Place of Birth

Refers to the name of the province, territory or country in which the person was born. It may refer to a province or territory if the person was born in Canada. It refers to a country if the person was born outside Canada. The geographic location is specified according to boundaries current at the time the data are collected, not the boundaries at the time of birth.

Non-Immigrant Population

Refers to a person who is a Canadian citizen by birth.

Immigrant Population

Refers to people who are, or have been, landed immigrants in Canada. A landed immigrant is a person who is not a Canadian citizen by birth, but has been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities. In the 2011 National Household Survey, 'Immigrants' includes immigrants who landed in Canada prior to May 10, 2011.

Non-Permanent Resident

Refers to people from another country who, at the time of census, had an employment authorization, a student authorization, or a Minister's permit, or who were refugee claimants at the time of the census, and family members living here with them.

Period of Immigration

Refers to the period in which the immigrant first obtained his or her landed immigrant/permanent resident status.

Mobility Status - Place of Residence 1 Year Ago

Information indicating whether the person lived in the same residence on the reference day, May 10, 2011, as he or she did one year before, May 10, 2010. This means that we have 'movers' and 'non-movers.' There are different types of 'movers': people who moved within the same city or town (non-migrants), people who moved to a different city or town (internal migrants) and people who came from another country to live in Canada (external migrants).

Mobility Status - Place of Residence 5 Years Ago

Information indicating whether the person lived in the same residence on the reference day, (May 10, 2011), as he or she did five years before (May 10, 2006).

Non-movers

Persons who, on Census Day, were living at the same address as the one at which they resided one year earlier.

Movers

Persons who, on Census Day, were living at a different address than the one at which they resided one year earlier.

Non-migrants

Movers who, on Census Day, were living at a different address, but in the same census subdivision (CSD) as the one they lived in one year earlier.

Migrants

Movers who, on Census Day, were residing in a different CSD one year earlier (internal migrants) or who were living outside Canada one year earlier (external migrants).

Intraprovincial migrants

Internal migrants who, on Census Day, were living at a different address but in the same province/territory that they occupied one year earlier.

Interprovincial migrants

Refers to the person's usual province or territory of residence on May 10, 2010 one year prior to the reference day, May 10, 2011. This concept applies to the Mobility status (1 year ago) subuniverse only.

Dwelling Type**Private Dwelling**

Refers to a separate set of living quarters with a private entrance either from outside or from a common hall, lobby, vestibule or stairway inside the building. The entrance to the dwelling must be one that can be used without passing through the living quarters of someone else. The dwelling must meet the two conditions necessary for year-round occupancy:

1. a source of heat or power (as evidenced by chimneys, power lines, oil or gas pipes or meters, generators, woodpiles, electric lights, heating pumps, solar heating panels, etc.)
2. an enclosed space that provides shelter from the elements (as evidenced by complete and enclosed walls and roof, and by doors and windows that provide protection from wind, rain and snow).

Occupied Private Dwelling

Refers to a separate set of living quarters with a private entrance either from outside or from a common hall, lobby, vestibule or stairway inside the building in which a person or a group of persons is permanently residing. The entrance to the dwelling must be one that can be used without passing through the living quarters of someone else. Also included are private dwellings whose usual residents are temporarily absent on May 10, 2011.

Structural Type of Dwelling

Characteristics that define a dwelling's structure, for example, the characteristics of a single-detached house, a semi-detached house, a row house, or an apartment or flat in a duplex.

Single-detached house

A single dwelling not attached to any other dwelling or structure (except its own garage or shed). A single-detached house has open space on all sides, and has no dwellings either above it or below it. A mobile home fixed permanently to a foundation is also classified as a single-detached house.

Semi-detached house

One of two dwellings attached side by side (or back to front) to each other, but not to any other dwelling or structure (except its own garage or shed). A semi-detached dwelling has no dwellings either above it or below it, and the two units together have open space on all sides.

Row house

One of three or more dwellings joined side by side (or occasionally side to back), such as a town house or garden home, but not having any other dwellings either above or below. Townhouses attached to a high-rise building are also classified as row houses.

Apartment or flat in a duplex

One of two dwellings, located one above the other, may or may not be attached to other dwellings or buildings.

Apartment in a building that has five or more storeys

A dwelling unit in a high-rise apartment building which has five or more storeys.

Apartment in a building that has fewer than five storeys

A dwelling unit attached to other dwelling units, commercial units, or other non-residential space in a building that has fewer than five storeys.

Other single-attached house

A single dwelling that is attached to another building and that does not fall into any of the other categories, such as a single dwelling attached to a non-residential structure (e.g., a store or a church) or occasionally to another residential structure (e.g., an apartment building).

Mobile home

A single dwelling designed and constructed to be transported on its own chassis and capable of being moved to a new location on short notice. It may be placed temporarily on a foundation pad and may be covered by a skirt.

Dwelling Tenure

Refers to whether some member of the household owns or rents the dwelling, or whether the dwelling is band housing (on an Indian reserve or settlement).

Owned

A dwelling is classified as "owned" even if it is not fully paid for, such as one which has a mortgage or some other claim on it. The dwelling may be situated on rented or leased land or be part of a condominium (whether registered or unregistered).

Rented

A household is considered to rent that dwelling even if the dwelling is provided without cash rent or at a reduced rent, or if the dwelling is part of a cooperative.

Dwelling Characteristics***Rooms***

Refer to enclosed areas within a private dwelling which are finished and suitable for year round living. The number of rooms of a private dwelling includes kitchens, bedrooms and finished rooms in the attic or basement.

Bedrooms

Refer to rooms in a private dwelling that are designed mainly for sleeping purposes even if they are now used for other purposes, such as guest rooms and television rooms. Also included are rooms used as bedrooms now, even if they were not originally built as bedrooms, such as bedrooms in a finished basement. Bedrooms exclude rooms designed for another use during the day such as dining rooms and living rooms even if they may be used for sleeping purposes at night. By definition, one-room private dwellings such as studio apartments have zero bedrooms.

Dwellings by Need of Repair

Refer to whether the dwelling is in need of repairs. This does not include desirable remodelling or additions.

Regular maintenance

Refers to painting, furnace cleaning, etc.

Minor repairs

Refer to the repair of missing or loose floor tiles, bricks or shingles, defective steps, railing or siding, etc.

Major repairs

Refer to the repair of defective plumbing or electrical wiring, structural repairs to walls, floors or ceilings, etc.

Dwellings by Period of Construction

Refers to the period in time during which the building or dwelling was originally constructed.

Dwelling Costs by Tenure**Gross Rent**

Includes all shelter expenses paid by households that rent their dwellings, such as the monthly rent and the costs of electricity, heat, water and municipal services.

Owner's Major Payments

Includes all shelter expenses paid by households that own their dwellings, such as the mortgage payment and the costs of electricity, heat, water and other municipal services, property taxes and condominium fees.

Percentage of Household Income Spent on Shelter Costs

Percentage of an owner household's average total monthly income which is spent on shelter-related expenses. Those expenses include the monthly rent (for tenants) or the mortgage payment, property taxes and condominium fees (for owners) and the costs of electricity, heat, municipal services, etc. The percentage is calculated by dividing the total shelter-related expenses by the household's total monthly income and multiplying the result by 100.

Ethnic Origin

Ethnic origin refers to the ethnic or cultural origins of the respondent's ancestors. An ancestor is usually more distant than a grandparent and examples of ethnic origins were listed as follows: Canadian, English, French, Chinese, East Indian, Italian, German, Scottish, Irish, Cree, Mi'kmaq, Salish, Métis, Inuit, Filipino, Dutch, Ukrainian, Polish, Portuguese, Greek, Korean, Vietnamese, Jamaican, Jewish, Lebanese, Salvadorean, Somali, Colombian, etc.

A person can have more than one ethnic or cultural origin.

Highest Level of Schooling

Information indicating the person's most advanced certificate, diploma or degree. This is a derived variable obtained from the educational qualifications questions, which asked for all certificates, diplomas and degrees to be reported. The general hierarchy used in deriving this variable (high school graduation, trades, college, university) is loosely tied to the 'in-class' duration of the various types of education. At the detailed level, someone who has completed one type of certificate, diploma or degree will not necessarily have completed the credentials listed below it in the hierarchy. For example, a registered apprenticeship graduate may not have completed a high school certificate or diploma, nor does an individual with a master's degree necessarily have a 'certificate or diploma above the bachelor's level.' Although the hierarchy may not fit all programs perfectly, it gives a general measure of educational attainment.

High School Certificate or Equivalent

Includes persons who have completed the requirements for graduation from a secondary school or the equivalent, but no postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree. Examples of secondary (high) school equivalency certificates are General Educational Development (GED) and Adult Basic Education (ABE). A secondary (high) school diploma or graduation certificate or equivalent is sometimes classified as junior or senior matriculation, general or technical-commercial.

College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma

These are obtained from: a community college; a CEGEP (both general and technical); an institute of technology; a school of nursing; a private business school; a private or public trade school; or a vocational school. Included in this category are teaching and nursing certificates awarded by provincial departments of education, with the exception of teachers' or nurses qualifications obtained at university-affiliated faculties of education or nursing. College certificates or diplomas of two years or more usually have a minimum entrance requirement of a secondary (high) school diploma or its equivalent.

Field of Study

Refers to the predominant discipline or area of learning or training of a person's highest completed postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree classified according to the Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Canada 2011.

Labour Force Activity

Refers to whether a person was employed, unemployed or not in the labour force during the week of Sunday, May 1 to Saturday, May 7, 2011. It is also called Labour Force Status.

Early enumeration was conducted in remote, isolated parts of the provinces and territories in February, March and April 2011. When enumeration has taken place before May 2011, the reference date used is the date on which the household was enumerated.

Participating in labour force

Refers to persons who were either employed or unemployed during the week (Sunday to Saturday) prior to Census Day (May 10, 2011). Labour force = Employed + Unemployed

Employed

Persons who, during the week of Sunday, May 1 to Saturday, May 7, 2011:

- (a) did any work at all at a job or business, that is, paid work in the context of an employer-employee relationship, or self-employment. It also includes persons who did unpaid family work, which is defined as unpaid work contributing directly to the operation of a farm, business or professional practice owned and operated by a related member of the same household;
- (b) had a job but were not at work due to factors such as their own illness or disability, personal or family responsibilities, vacation or a labour dispute. This category excludes persons not at work because they were on layoff or between casual jobs, and those who did not then have a job (even if they had a job to start at a future date).

Early enumeration was conducted in remote, isolated parts of the provinces and territories in February, March and April 2011. When enumeration has taken place before May 2011, the reference date used is the date on which the household was enumerated.

Unemployed

Refers to persons who, during the week of Sunday, May 1 to Saturday, May 7, 2011, were without paid work or without self-employment work and were available for work and either:

- (a) had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks; or
- (b) were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job; or
- (c) had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.

Early enumeration was conducted in remote, isolated parts of the provinces and territories in February, March and April 2011. When enumeration has taken place before May 2011, the reference date used is the date on which the household was enumerated.

Not in the labour force

Refers to persons who, during the week of Sunday, May 1 to Saturday, May 7, 2011, were neither employed nor unemployed.

Early enumeration was conducted in remote, isolated parts of the provinces and territories in February, March and April 2011. When enumeration has taken place before May 2011, the reference date used is the date on which the household was enumerated.

Participation rate

Refers to the labour force in the week of Sunday, May 1 to Saturday, May 7, 2011, expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over.

The participation rate for a particular group (age, sex, marital status, geographic area, etc.) is the total labour force in that group, expressed as a percentage of the total population in that group.

Early enumeration was conducted in remote, isolated parts of the provinces and territories in February, March and April 2011. When enumeration has taken place before May 2011, the reference date used is the date on which the household was enumerated.

Employment rate

Refers to the number of persons employed in the week of Sunday, May 1 to Saturday, May 7, 2011, expressed as a percentage of the total population aged 15 years and over.

The employment rate for a particular group (age, sex, marital status, geographic area, etc.) is the number of employed persons in that group, expressed as a percentage of the total population in that group.

Early enumeration was conducted in remote, isolated parts of the provinces and territories in February, March and April 2011. When enumeration has taken place before May 2011, the reference date used is the date on which the household was enumerated.

Unemployment Rate

Refers to the unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the week of Sunday, May 1 to Saturday, May 7, 2011.

The unemployment rate for a particular group (age, sex, marital status, geographic area, etc.) is the unemployed in that group, expressed as a percentage of the labour force in that group.

Early enumeration was conducted in remote, isolated parts of the provinces and territories in February, March and April 2011. When enumeration has taken place before May 2011, the reference date used is the date on which the household was enumerated.

Labour Force by Place of Work

Classification of respondents according to whether they worked at home, worked outside Canada, had no fixed workplace address, or worked at a specific address (usual place of work).

Worked at home

Persons whose job is located in the same building as their place of residence, persons who live and work on the same farm, building superintendents and teleworkers who spend most of their work week working at home.

Worked outside Canada

Persons who work at a location outside Canada. This can include diplomats, Armed Forces personnel and other persons enumerated abroad. This category also includes recent immigrants who may not currently be employed, but whose job of longest duration since January 1, 2010 was held outside Canada.

No Usual Place of Work (No fixed workplace address)

Persons who do not go from home to the same workplace location at the beginning of each shift. Such persons include building and landscape contractors, travelling salespersons, independent truck drivers, etc.

Labour Force by Mode of Transportation

Refers to the main mode of transportation to travel between his or her home and his or her place of work for the population aged 15 years and over in private households, who worked at some time since January 1, 2010. Persons who indicated that they either had no fixed workplace address, or specified a usual workplace address, were asked to identify the mode of transportation they usually used to commute from home to work. The variable usually relates to the individual's job held during the week of Sunday, May 1 to Saturday, May 7, 2011. However, if the person did not work during that week but had worked at some time since January 1, 2010, the information relates to the job held longest during that period.

Early enumeration was conducted in remote, isolated parts of the provinces and territories in February, March and April 2011. When enumeration has taken place before May 2011, the reference date used is the date on which the household was enumerated.

Labour Force by Industry

Refers to the general nature of the business carried out in the establishment where the person worked.

The 2011 National Household Survey industry data are produced according to the NAICS 2007. The NAICS provides enhanced industry comparability among the three North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) trading partners (Canada, United States and Mexico). This classification consists of a systematic and comprehensive arrangement of industries structured into 20 sectors, 102 subsectors and 324 industry groups. The criteria used to create these categories are similarity of input structures, labour skills or production processes used by the establishment.

Experienced Labour Force

Refers to persons who, during the week of Sunday, May 1 to Saturday, May 7, 2011, were employed and the unemployed who had last worked for pay or in self-employment in either 2010 or 2011.

Early enumeration was conducted in remote, isolated parts of the provinces and territories in February, March and April 2011. When enumeration has taken place before May 2011, the reference date used is the date on which the household was enumerated.

Labour Force by Major Occupation Groups

Refers to the kind of work performed by persons during the week of Sunday, May 1 to Saturday, May 7, 2011, as determined by their kind of work and the description of the main activities in their job.

The 2011 National Household Survey occupation data are produced according to the NOC 2011. The National Occupational Classification (NOC) 2011 is composed of four levels of aggregation. There are 10 broad occupational categories containing 40 major groups that are further subdivided into 140 minor groups. At the most detailed level, there are 500 occupation unit groups. Occupation unit groups are formed on the basis of the education, training, or skill level required to enter the job, as well as the kind of work performed, as determined by the tasks, duties and responsibilities of the occupation.

Labour Force by Class of Worker

Class of worker refers to whether an employed person is an employee or is self-employed. The self-employed include persons with or without a business, as well as unpaid family workers.

Paid Workers (Employees)

This category includes persons who worked for others in the context of an employer-employee relationship. This includes persons who worked for wages, salaries, commissions, tips, piece-rates, or payments 'in kind' (payments in goods or services rather than money).

Self-employed

This category includes persons whose job consisted mainly of operating a business, farm or professional practice, alone or in partnership. This includes: operating a farm, whether the land is rented or owned; working on a freelance or contract basis to do a job (e.g., architects, private duty nurses); operating a direct distributorship selling and delivering products such as cosmetics, newspapers, brushes and cleaning products; and fishing with own equipment or with equipment in which the person has a share. The business can be incorporated or unincorporated. Self-employed persons include those with and those without paid help. Also included among the self-employed are unpaid family workers. They are persons who work without pay in a business, farm or professional practice owned and operated by another family member living in the same dwelling.

Employment Income by Work Activity***Employment Income***

Refers to total income received by persons aged 15 years and over during calendar year 2010 as wages and salaries, net income from a non-farm unincorporated business and/or professional practice, and/or net farm self-employment income.

Work activity

Refers to the number of weeks in which a person worked for pay or in self-employment in 2010 at all jobs held, even if only for a few hours, and whether these weeks were mostly full time (30 hours or more per week) or mostly part time (less than 30 hours per week).

Full-year full-time

refers to persons aged 15 years and over who worked 49 to 52 weeks mostly full time in 2010 for pay or in self-employment.

Total Income

Total of income from all sources, including employment income, income from government programs, pension income, investment income and any other money income.

Average income of individuals

Average income of individuals refers to the dollar amount obtained by adding up the total income of all individuals aged 15 years and over who reported income for 2010 and dividing this sum by the number of individuals with income.

Median income of individuals

The median income of a specified group of income recipients is that amount which divides their income size distribution into two halves, i.e., the incomes of the first half of individuals are below the median, while those of the second half are above the median.

Household Income

The total income of a household is the sum of the total incomes of all members of that household.

Household

Refers to a person or a group of persons (other than foreign residents) who occupy the same private dwelling and do not have a usual place of residence elsewhere in Canada. Household members who are temporarily absent on May 10, 2011 (e.g., temporarily residing elsewhere) are considered as part of their usual household. Every person is a member of one and only one household.

Economic Family Income

The total income of an economic family is the sum of the total incomes of all members of that family.

Economic family

Refers to a group of two or more persons who live in the same dwelling and are related to each other by blood, marriage, common-law, adoption or a foster relationship. A couple may be of opposite or same sex.

Couple families

Those in which a member of either a married or common-law couple is the economic family reference person.

Lone-parent families

Those in which either a male or female lone parent is the economic family reference person.

Average income of economic families

Refers to the weighted mean total income of families in 2010. Average income is calculated from unrounded data by dividing the aggregate income of a specified group of families (for example, husband-wife families with working wives) by the number of families in that group, whether or not they reported income.

Median income of families

The median income of a specified group of families is that amount which divides their income size distribution, ranked by size of income, into two halves. That is, the incomes of the first half of the families are below the median, while those of the second half are above the median. Median incomes of families are normally calculated for all units in the specified group, whether or not they reported income.

Low income measure after tax (LIM-AT)

In simple terms, the Low-income measure after tax (LIM-AT) is a fixed percentage (50%) of median adjusted after-tax income of households observed at the person level, where 'adjusted' indicates that a household's needs are taken into account. Adjustment for household sizes reflects the fact that a household's needs increase as the number of members increase, although not necessarily by the same proportion per additional member.

The LIMs derivation begins by calculating the 'adjusted household income' for each household by dividing household income by the square root of the number of persons in the household, otherwise known as the 'equivalence scale.' This adjusted household income is assigned to each individual in the private household, and the median of the adjusted household income (where half of all individuals will be above it and half below) is determined over the population. The LIM for a household of one person is 50% of this median, and the LIMs for other sizes of households are equal to this value multiplied by their equivalence scale.

Unlike other low income lines, LIMs do not vary by size of area of residence.

Prevalence of low income rates

Percentage of persons, economic families, persons not in an economic family aged 15 years or over or households in low income according to one of the low-income lines.

The prevalence of low income is the proportion or percentage of units whose income falls below a specified low income line.

Source: 2011 Census Reference Material, 2011 Census Dictionary, 2011 NHS User Guide and 2011 NHS Dictionary.